

## HYLAN STILL HOLDS UP APPOINTMENTS

Asks Some Mitchell Heads to Hold Over and Burdett Lewis Consents.

### TAKES OATH AS MAYOR

Loft Won't Take Police Job and Chamberlain's Office May Go Unfilled.

John F. Hylan will not be able to appoint a complete new "Cabinet" on Tuesday when he becomes Mayor, because several appointments will not have been decided upon at that time. It was said yesterday that nearly one-third of the Mitchell Commissioners would be asked to stay in office for a while and that one or two of them might continue indefinitely. If the department heads insist upon resigning their deputies will take charge and if no deputies are available the task of running a department during the interregnum will devolve upon the chief clerk.

It is understood that Correction Commissioner Burdett G. Lewis, who visited Judge Hylan yesterday at the latter's request, has agreed to stay for the present. Health Commissioner Emerson, License Commissioner Bell, the City Record Supervisor, Dock Commissioner Smith, some of the Tax Commissioners and one or two of the Civil Service Commissioners also will be requested to keep on for the time being, according to present indications.

Murray Hulbert is to be Dock Commissioner unless that office is absorbed in war time port reorganization, but he will not resign from the House of Representatives for several weeks at least.

The Police Commissionership may be added to the list of unfilled offices, as a successor to Arthur Woods had not been picked according to the best information obtainable yesterday. Unless a decision is reached by Tuesday First Deputy Commissioner Dunham probably will take temporary charge of the department.

Aside from the appointment of Murray Hulbert as Dock Commissioner when he is ready to take the job, the only

major positions which the participants in the unofficial state writing session were agreed upon as being positively awarded up to last night were:

Commissioner of Accounts, William Bullock, with Henry H. Klein as his deputy.

Corporation Counsel, William P. Burr, with ex-Senator W. B. Carawell deputy for Brooklyn.

Commissioner of Charities, Bird S. Coier.

It was reported that L. J. O'Reilly, William R. Hearns's secretary, had declined the appointment as City Chamberlain and that the place had been offered to Alfred J. Johnson, vice-president of the Van Cleave company, Under Sheriff when Nicholas J. Hayes was Sheriff and secretary to Mayor Grant.

With this gossip went the rumor that Judge Hylan was thinking of leaving the office of Chamberlain unfilled. His abolition as a useless department has often been recommended, and Tammany is said to be wondering if this would not be a good way to prove that it really is interested in economy.

Friends of George W. Loft said there was no chance of his accepting the Police Commissionership, and once more the speculation regarding this office revolved around the names of several inspectors of the uniformed force.

Inspector John Daly, now in charge of the "new Tenderloin" precincts, received honorable mention. A new name was that of John W. O'Connor, who for several years was inspector in the old Tenderloin, but was reduced to a captaincy by Commissioner Bingham. O'Connor is now boss of Traffic D in Brooklyn.

A. R. McStay, Deputy Street Cleaning Commissioner for the Bronx, will succeed John T. Fetherston as acting commissioner in charge of the department on Tuesday, Mr. Fetherston having resigned and the place not being permanently filled.

Not a word for publication as to what was holding up the appointments could be got out of any of the Hylan or Tammany circle. It seemed clear, however, that the Democratic leaders of the various boroughs had pretty well agreed among themselves on the patronage, but that Judge Hylan was asking for more time in which to look up the records of some of the recommended candidates.

As he has been busy with matters of policy as well as of jobs he has not had a chance to sift the candidates as he thinks they ought to be sifted. Such was the interpretation placed upon the delay by his friends.

The various elected officers of the new administration have been unable to select members of their staff because some of the men to whom they are obligated are also candidates for appointment by Mayor Hylan and don't know how they stand with the Judge.

Borough President Connolly of Queens has not announced all of his appointments for the reason that the Mayor

elect has not indicated whether he will recognize the Connolly or the Keating Democratic faction in that borough. If the official county leader, Mason O. Smedley, fails to land the men he has commended for appointment by Judge Hylan, Connolly will place them in his administration.

Anyway, Connolly will reappoint Richard M. Newcombe as Public Works Commissioner, G. Howland Leavitt as Superintendent of Highways and John W. Moore as Superintendent of the Bureau of Buildings. James Butler will probably be continued as Deputy Public Works Commissioner.

Judge Hylan took the Mayor's oath of office at noon yesterday before Justice Charles L. Guy in Part I of the Supreme Court in the County Court House. He was accompanied by Grover Whalen, who will be his secretary, and City Clerk Scully, who supplied a blank, from which was read:

"I, John F. Hylan, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the Mayor of the city of New York to the best of my ability."

In the way out a photographer asked Judge Hylan to pose, but he said he was too busy for even a snapshot.

Ex-Ambassador James W. Gerard and John M. Bowers called on the Mayor-elect in his Forty-second street office to ask him to retain the Mayor's Committee on National Defense, irrespective of personnel. He replied that he counted on doing so. Miss Gildersleeve, dean of Barnard College, and Mrs. Willard D. Straight, members of the women's branch of the present defense committee, called with a similar plea.

Judge Hylan and other members of the incoming Board of Estimate, talked with school district superintendents and C. H. J. Snyder, superintendent of school buildings, regarding plans to hasten building plans. Assistant Superintendent Shallow reported that there was about \$7,000,000 available. The Hylan administration purposes to erect thirteen new buildings, the largest of which would cost about \$635,000, and to use part of the money on additions to present school houses.

Others who saw Judge Hylan were Samuel Untermyer and Col. Alexander S. Bacon.

## INSTIGATOR NAMED IN PRIMARY FRAUD

Convicted G. O. P. Official Implicates "Man Higher Up" in Alleged Confession.

### VERIFICATION IS SOUGHT

Silberstein's Sentence for Complicity in Making False Returns Is Deferred.

Michael Silberstein, chairman of a Republican election board of the Seventeenth Assembly district, who was convicted Friday of certifying false returns of the ballots cast in the primary election on September 19, yesterday made a complete confession to Alfred J. Talley and Neilson Olcott, according to the two Assistant District Attorneys. In the confession Silberstein implicates a "man higher up," who, it is said, will be tried immediately, but whose name is being withheld in the office of the District Attorney.

Mr. Talley last night said that Silberstein in his confession admits the charge that he aided in throwing the count from William M. Bennett to Mayor Mitchell in his polling place in the Fifth Election district, which was at 1605 Madison avenue, between 107th and 108th streets. Silberstein is an upholsterer and lives at 23 West 111th street. Justice Goff has postponed sentence indefinitely. The maximum penalty, it is understood, is seven years in the penitentiary.

The "man higher up," Silberstein is reported to have confessed, went to the polling place about 6 o'clock on the day of the primary and said: "Mitchell is running bad. He'll have to be counted in." Silberstein maintained this was the first suspicion he had had that there was to be any crookedness, and that even then he failed to realize it until the politician he names took over the ballot box and began counting the ballots.

"When he read off 'Bennett nothing,' doubts were raised. All of ours were. We protested that this would be going too strong. Consequently we split the difference and gave Bennett 5 and Mitchell 42." The real count as it developed should have been Bennett 24, Mitchell 20, with three ballots blank. Silberstein says the politicians quieted his fears of detection thus: "That's all right. It will never be known. The ballots 'll not be counted and there'll be no holding. If there is leave it to me."

The tally sheet, it is said, shows unmistakably that a figure "0" was once written against Bennett's name, but later was erased and that the numbers "42" had the same experience in connection with Mayor Mitchell's name.

Will Seek Verification.

Subpoena will be served on all the men who were at the polling place at the time of the alleged fraud to verify Silberstein's story.

Silberstein's conviction before Justice Goff and a jury in the Supreme Court Friday, and his confession yesterday are considered significant in the District Attorney's office, in view of the fact that five of the indictments returned by the Grand Jury against seventy-two election officials in Manhattan were against men in Silberstein's district.

On October 19 Samuel Krulwich, cashier in the Manhattan branch of the State Excise Board and a Republican leader in the Seventeenth Assembly district, was indicted. His son, Alvin Krulwich, also was indicted and now is being held in jail to await trial on two counts of the indictment, the third one having been dismissed. The three counts of the indictment against the elder Krulwich were dismissed. It was said in the District Attorney's office last night that the "man higher up" referred to by Silberstein was not Krulwich.

Brothers Deny Being Bribe.

Humberto and Victor Miele, brothers, both living at 1809 Lexington avenue, told William Harman Black, Assistant District Attorney, yesterday why they had quit the Tammany party and supported Mayor Mitchell in his campaign for reelection. It was not for money, they maintained, but because they believed he would make a better city official than the man Tammany wanted elected.

"But you did receive \$40," said Mr. Black to Victor.

"And I did spend it for campaigning," was the answer. "I spent that and more out of my own pocket—for cigars and drinks—for voters who might otherwise not vote right."

Humberto, when asked about \$430, reported to have been given to him by the Fusion committee, replied that most of it had been used in supplying gasoline for his automobile, which he used in campaign work.

A subpoena has been issued for James McGinley of the office of the Commissioner of Accounts, for his appearance to give testimony in the investigation to-morrow.

Cake Price to Stand for 1918.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—There will be no general revision of cake prices for the year 1918. Fuel Administrator Garfield to-day issued an order continuing in force the prices fixed last September.

## DENIES ANY PROFIT IN SORTING PLANT

I. I. Kaplan Says Wool Base Company Works With Patriotic Motives.

### Company Works With Patriotic Motives.

Ira I. Kaplan, president of the Base Sorting Plant, Inc., which was organized to conserve the wool scraps left after cutting United States Army uniforms, issued a statement last night denying that a statement had been cancelled. He also denied that at any time had the company profited one cent in its contract, and declared it was organized and run from purely patriotic motives.

Mr. Kaplan's statement was issued for the purpose of correcting published statements to the effect that the plant had been making considerably more than five cents a pound on olive drab wool scraps collected for the Government. In explaining this Mr. Kaplan says:

"It became necessary to reach some tentative working agreement with the Government to cover the cost of the work to be done and an approximate price of six cents a pound was agreed upon to cover the sorting of wool clippings used on Government contracts, including freight handling and cartage, insurance, overhead charges, etc. It was also agreed that out of this six cents the profit should at no time exceed one-

half cent a pound, but this was done with the understanding that there should really no profit accrue, and the contract was amended before any discussion of it became public to the end that not one cent of profit or remuneration should accrue either directly or indirectly to any individual responsible for the organization of the plant.

"The Base Sorting Plant expects to continue its work without profit in the future as in the past. Furthermore, the entire plant is under the constant supervision of the inspectors of the War Department."

"It is gisted from time to time by higher officials, and is, in fact, an adjunct to the War Department. Entirely aside from other questions, the method of wool conservation for the Government made possible by the creation of this plant has saved to the Government hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of clippings from Government contracts which otherwise would have gone to private contractors for their own gain."

"It was at the suggestion of the Committee of Supplies of the Council of National Defense, with the object of conserving the wool required for the men and officers of the army, that this plant was organized, and its incorporators were chosen by the Committee of National Defense for their knowledge of the situation, for their experience, and for their reputation."

Free Show for Soldiers To-day.

A practical demonstration of the aims of the War Camp Community Service will be had this afternoon at the Harris Theatre, when a vaudeville entertainment will be given for the enlisted men in all branches of the United States and Allied services. The performance will begin at 2:30 P. M. and a man's uniform will be his pass. An excellent programme has been arranged.

# Stern Brothers

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Beginning Wednesday, January 2nd, the  
January Sales of Women's Muslin,  
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Which will provide average savings  
of One-third on our regular prices.

Details will be published in Tuesday's morning papers.

Continuing During the Month of January the  
Annual Sale of Housekeeping Linens

At 25 to 50% Below Present Market Prices.  
Specimens of the values available To-morrow:

Linen Satin Damask Table Cloths, at \$3.50, 4.50 and 5.50	Irish Linen Pillow Cases, hemstitched, pair \$1.95
Napkins to match, doz. \$3.75 to 5.25	Irish Linen Sheets, hemstitched, pair \$7.25
Hemstitched Huck Towels, damask borders, doz. \$5.90	

## Initial Display of Early Spring Modes

Will be found on the Third Floor in

Women's Suits, Dresses and Separate Skirts  
for wear at the Southern and coast resorts.

Many charming and exclusive innovations in silk and woolen fabrics for dress and sport wear are featured.

Half Yearly Clearance Sales commence  
Wednesday in the following sections:

Women's Suits and Dresses  
Women's Coats and Wraps  
Women's & Misses' Corsets  
Women's Smart Blouses  
White & Fancy Blankets  
Muslin Sheets and Cases

Oriental and American Rugs and Household Furniture.

Details will be published in Tuesday's morning papers.

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COATS WITHOUT FUR—FORMERLY TO \$75—\$35 & \$45

STREET & AFTERNOON DRESSES  
(ALSO DANCE FROCKS)

FORMERLY TO \$135—at \$35 \$65

STREET & SEMI-DRESS SUITS  
(Plain Tailored and Fur-Trimmed)

FORMERLY TO \$125—at \$45 & \$65

LUXURIOUS FUR-TRIMMED WRAPS  
FORMERLY TO \$295—at \$145 to \$195

CHARMING COSTUME BLOUSES  
FORMERLY TO \$35—at \$15

SMART HATS  
FORMERLY TO \$40—at \$10 & \$15

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